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SEARCH REQUEST FORM

Scientific and Technical Information Center

Requester's Full Name: Maris Sa Their Examiner #: 19410 Date: 3-03-03
Art Unit: 3625 Phone Number 30 5 - 5246 Serial Number: 09 609 596
Mail Box and Bldg/Room Location: (PK 5 - 7/32) Results Format Preferred (circle): PAPER DISK E-MAIL
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Please provide a detailed statement of the search topic, and describe as specifically as possible the subject matter to be searched. Include the elected species or structures, keywords, synonyms, acronyms, and registry numbers, and combine with the concept or utility of the invention. Define any terms that may have a special meaning. Give examples or relevant citations, authors, etc., if known. Please attach a copy of the cover sheet, pertinent claims, and abstract.
Title of Invention: System and Method Wheren a Buyer Purchuses Inventors (please provide full names): Tay 5 Walver magaalena Mile;
John Packers , TR.; Russell Pratt Sammon; Michilko Kobayasii.
Earliest Priority Filing Date: 5 - 12 - 2000
For Sequence Searches Only Please include all pertinent information (parent, child, divisional, or issued patent numbers) along with the appropriate serial number. Bidding or Offerring of Annany or plurality of product categories
-buyer offers an amount to a plurality or group of product categories (each product category associated at plurality of products)
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Searcher Location:	Structure (#)	Questel/Orbit
Date Searcher Picked Up:	Bibliographic	Dr.Link
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Searcher Prep & Review Time:	Fulltext	Sequence Systems
Clerical Prep Time:	Patent Family	WWW/Internet
Online Time:	Other	Other (specify)

PTO-1590 (8-01)

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File 347: JAPIO Oct 1976-2002/Oct (Updated 030204)
         (c) 2003 JPO & JAPIO
File 348:EUROPEAN PATENTS 1978-2003/Feb W04
         (c) 2003 European Patent Office
File 349:PCT FULLTEXT 1979-2002/UB=20030227,UT=20030220
         (c) 2003 WIPO/Univentio
File 350:Derwent WPIX 1963-2003/UD, UM &UP=200315
         (c) 2003 Thomson Derwent
        Items
                Description
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S1
          377
S2
          237 · AU='WALKER JAY' OR AU='WALKER JAY S'
S3
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                AU='MIK M':AU='MIK MAGDELENA'
S4
            6
                AU= 'PACKERS'
S5
           23
               AU='SAMMON R P' OR AU='SAMMON RUSSEL P':AU='SAMMON RUSSELL
             PRATT
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S6
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S7
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                AU='KOBAYASHI MICHIKO'
                (S1 OR S2 OR S3 OR S4 OR S5 OR S6 OR S7) AND (PRODUCT()CAT-
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             EGORIES)
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8/5/1
            (Item 1 from file: 349)
DIALOG(R) File 349: PCT FULLTEXT
(c) 2003 WIPO/Univentio. All rts. reserv.
00803603
             **Image available**
RETAIL SYSTEM FOR SELLING PRODUCTS BASED ON A FLEXIBLE PRODUCT DESCRIPTION
SYSTEME DE VENTE AU DETAIL PERMETTANT DE VENDRE DES PRODUITS SUR LA BASE
    D'UNE DESCRIPTION DE PRODUIT FLEXIBLE
Patent Applicant/Assignee:
  WALKER DIGITAL LLC, Five High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905, US, US
    (Residence), US (Nationality), (For all designated states except: US)
Patent Applicant/Inventor:
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    (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
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JORASCH James A, 25 Forest Street, Apt 5G, Stamford, CT 06901, US, US
    (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
   MIK Magdalena , 10 South Street, Greenwich, CT 06830, US, US (Residence)
    , US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
  TEDESCO Daniel E, 49 Kings Highway North, Westport, CT 06880, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
   SAMMON Russell Pratt , Apartment 2K, 444 Bedford Street, Stamford, CT
    06901, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
  GOLDEN Andrew P, Apartment 2A, 444 Bedford Street, New York, NY 10029, US
    , US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
  MUELLER Raymond J, 89 Catbrier Road, Weston, CT 06883, US, US (Residence)
  , US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
BEMER Keith, 517 East 75th Street, Apartment 2E, New York, NY 10021, US,
  US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
VAN LUCHENE Kathleen, Apartment 4, 17 Ferris Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06854,
    US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US
Legal Representative:
  ALDERUCCI Dean (et al) (agent), Walker Digital Corporation, Five High
    Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905, US,
Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):
  Patent:
                          WO 200137164 A2 20010525 (WO 0137164)
                          WO 2000US30115 20001102 (PCT/WO US0030115)
  Application:
  Priority Application: US 99165435 19991115; US 2000540035 20000331
Designated States: AE AG AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY BZ CA CH CN CR CU CZ
  DE DK DM DZ EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ
  LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG
  SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW
  (EP) AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE TR
  (OA) BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG
  (AP) GH GM KE LS MW MZ SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW
  (EA) AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM
Main International Patent Class: G06F-017/60
Publication Language: English
Filing Language: English
Fulltext Availability:
  Detailed Description
  Claims
Fulltext Word Count: 20336
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English Abstract

French Abstract

L'invention concerne un systeme dans lequel un prix de vente est determine sur la base d'une description de produit, le prix de vente est alors transmis a un client. Le client n'a pas la garantie du produit specifique qui lui sera vendu avant qu'un contrat d'achat de produit au prix de vente soit recu du client. Apres reception du contrat, un detaillant choisit un produit conforme a la description du produit et identifie le produit au client. Grace au systeme precite, le detaillant

est capable d'evaluer la demande individuelle d'un client sur la base de la description recue et de determiner un prix de vente en consequence, ce qui reduit les pertes associees a des systemes a prix unique traditionnels. Bien qu'un produit identique puisse par consequent avoir differents prix de vente, le systeme est juge comme juste parce qu'un client payant plus a accepte une description de produit differente de celle d'un client payant moins, et les clients n'auraient pas accepte la description de produit et le prix de vente de l'autre. Le systeme permet egalement a un detaillant de masquer des reductions sur un produit en selectionnant des conditions de rachat defavorables dans lesquelles vendre son produit, telles que la livraison dans une localite eloignee, meme si le produit est disponible dans une localite plus proche. Le client croit, par consequent, que la reduction est imputable aux conditions de rachat defavorables, plutot qu'a la qualite du produit ou a une demande en baisse. Le prix et la dilution de la marque s'en trouvent ainsi reduits.

Legal Status (Type, Date, Text)

Publication 20010525 A2 Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

Declaration 20011101 Late publication under Article 17.2a

Republication 20011101 A2 With declaration under Article 17(2)(a); without abstract; title not checked by the International Searching Authority.

8/5/2 (Item 2 from file: 349)
DIALOG(R)File 349:PCT FULLTEXT
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00766080 **Image available**

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONDUCTING A TRANSACTION BASED ON BRAND INDIFFERENCE

PROCEDE ET APPAREIL SERVANT A MENER UNE TRANSACTION BASEE SUR UNE INDIFFERENCE DE MARQUE

Patent Applicant/Assignee:

WALKER DIGITAL LLC, 5 High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (For all designated states except: US) Patent Applicant/Inventor:

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VAN LUCHENE Andrew S, 9 Greenwood Place, Norwalk, CT 06854, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)

OTTO Jonathan, Apartment 9A, 25 Forest Street, Stamford, CT 06901, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)

MIK Magdalena , 10 South New Street, Greenwich, CT 06830, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)

TEDESCO Daniel E, 49 Kings Highway North, Westport, CT 06880, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)

GOLDEN Andrew P, Apartment 5D, 1867 2nd Avenue, New York, NY 10029, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)

SAMMON Russell P , Apartment 2K, 444 Bedford Street, Stamford, CT 06901, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US Legal Representative:

ALLISON Scott B (et al) (agent), Intellectual Property Department, Walker Digital Corporation, Five High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905, US,

Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):

Patent: WO 200079456 A2 20001228 (WO 0079456)

Application: WO 2000US16926 20000620 (PCT/WO US0016926)
Priority Application: US 99337906 19990622; US 2000540214 20000331

Designated States: AE AG AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY BZ CA CH CN CR CU CZ DE DK DM DZ EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ

LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW

(EP) AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE

(OA) BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG

(AP) GH GM KE LS MW MZ SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW
(EA) AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM
Main International Patent Class: G06F-017/60
Publication Language: English
Filing Language: English
Fulltext Availability:
Detailed Description
Claims

Fulltext Word Count: 28183

English Abstract

French Abstract

La presente invention concerne un procede et un appareil permettant a un client d'indiquer son indifference de marque a l'interieur d'une categorie de produit, puis de recevoir un avantage pour l'achat d'un produit choisi par un tiers dans cette categorie. Ce procede et cet appareil sont particulierement utiles afin de differentier entre des clients fideles ou sensibles a la marque ou des clients indifferents a la marque, et ils permettent au fabricants de pratiquer une discrimination en matiere de prix entre ces deux types de clients. Le procede comprend une etape durant laquelle une indication d'au moins un produit ou une categorie de service recherches est recue d'un client ou d'un autre acheteur potentiel, une etape durant laquelle est effectuee une selection d'au moins un produit ou service qui correspond au produit ou a la categorie de service indiques, une etape durant laquelle une indication du produit ou service selectionne est exposee au client ou a un autre acheteur potentiel ou a un dispositif utilise ou accessible par le client ou par un autre acheteur potentiel, une etape durant laquelle une indication est recue indiquant que le client ou un autre acheteur potentiel a effectivement achete, loue, pris en location avec bail, obtenu, etc. le produit ou le service, et une etape durant laquelle un avantage est donne au client ou a l'acheteur qui a effectivement achete, loue, pris en location avec bail, obtenu, etc. le produit ou le service choisi, ou a quelqu'un d'autre ou a une entite designee par le client ou a une autre personne ou entite.

Legal Status (Type, Date, Text)

Publication 20001228 A2 Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

Examination 20010607 Request for preliminary examination prior to end of 19th month from priority date

Declaration 20011115 Late publication under Article 17.2a

Republication 20011115 A2 With declaration under Article 17(2)(a); without abstract; title not checked by the International Searching Authority.

8/5/3 (Item 3 from file: 349)
DIALOG(R)File 349:PCT FULLTEXT
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00766038 **Image available**

PURCHASING SYSTEMS AND METHODS WHEREIN A BUYER TAKES POSSESSION AT A RETAILER OF A PRODUCT PURCHASED USING A COMMUNICATION NETWORK

SYSTEMES ET PROCEDES D'ACHAT OU UN ACHETEUR PREND POSSESSION CHEZ UN DETAILLANT D'UN PRODUIT ACHETE AU MOYEN D'UN RESEAU DE COMMUNICATION

Patent Applicant/Assignee:

WALKER DIGITAL LLC, One High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (For all designated states except: US) Patent Applicant/Inventor:

WALKER Jay S , 124 Spectacle Lane, Ridgefield, CT 06877, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)
VAN LUCHENE Andrew S, 9 Greenwood Place, Norwalk, CT 06854, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)

MIK Magdalena , 10 South Street, Greenwich, CT 06830, US, US (Residence) , US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US)

TEDESCO Daniel E, Apartment 6, 192 Park Street, New Canaan, CT 06840, US, US (Residence), US (Nationality), (Designated only for: US Legal Representative:

DUGAN Brian M (et al) (agent), Walker Digital Corporation, Intellectual Property Department, Five High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905, US, Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):

Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):
Patent: WO 200079410 A2 20001228 (WO 0079410)

Application: WO 2000US12640 20000509 (PCT/WO US0012640)

Priority Application: US 99337906 19990622

Designated States: AE AG AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY CA CH CN CR CU CZ DE DK DM DZ EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW

(EP) AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE

(OA) BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG

(AP) GH GM KE LS MW SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW

(EA) AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM

Main International Patent Class: G06F-017/60

Publication Language: English Filing Language: English Fulltext Availability:

Detailed Description

Claims

Fulltext Word Count: 30214

English Abstract

French Abstract

L'invention concerne un systeme et des procedes d'achat, selon lesquels un acheteur prend possession d'un produit chez un detaillant. Un systeme d'achat peut communiquer avec un acheteur par le biais d'un reseau de communication pour etablir un premier prix d'un produit entre l'acheteur et un vendeur. Le systeme d'achat peut egalement prendre des dispositions permettant a l'acheteur de prendre possession du produit chez un detaillant, different du vendeur, qui offre le produit a la vente a un second prix. Des informations de verification, qui permettent au detaillant d'autoriser l'acheteur de prendre possession du produit, sont transmises au detaillant. L'acheteur effectue un paiement en se basant sur le premier prix, au systeme d'achat en echange du droit de prendre possession du produit chez le detaillant. Selon une mode de realisation prefere, le systeme d'achat recoit une offre de l'acheteur, y compris un prix d'offre lie au produit. Selon une autre mode de realisation, le systeme d'achat transmet des informations sur le remboursement, y compris un code de remboursement, a l'acheteur. Ces informations peuvent comporter des informations permettant la creation d'un bon de commande a utiliser lors de la prise de possession du produit. Le systeme d'achat peut aussi recevoir des informations concernant une tentative de l'acheteur de prendre possession du produit, y compris le code de remboursement, du detaillant.

Legal Status (Type, Date, Text)

Publication 20001228 A2 Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

Examination 20010517 Request for preliminary examination prior to end of 19th month from priority date

Declaration 20011101 Late publication under Article 17.2a

Republication 20011101 A2 With declaration under Article 17(2)(a); without abstract; title not checked by the International Searching Authority.

8/5/4 (Item 4 from file: 349)
DIALOG(R)File 349:PCT FULLTEXT
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00574749 **Image available** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VENDING PRODUCTS PROCEDE ET APPAREIL DE DISTRIBUTION AUTOMATIQUE DE PRODUITS Patent Applicant/Assignee: WALKER DIGITAL LLC, WALKER Jay S, TEDESCO Daniel E, PACKES John M Jr, RATTNER Charles A, MIK Madgalena, VAN LUCHENE Andrew S, Inventor(s): WALKER Jay S TEDESCO Daniel E, PACKES John M Jr, RATTNER Charles A, MIK Madgalena , VAN LUCHENE Andrew S Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date): WO 200038122 A1 20000629 (WO 0038122) Patent: WO 99US25484 19991029 (PCT/WO US9925484) Application: Priority Application: US 98218085 19981222 Designated States: AE AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY CA CH CN CU CZ DE DK EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW GH GM KE LS MW SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG Main International Patent Class: G07F-009/02 Publication Language: English Fulltext Availability: Detailed Description Claims Fulltext Word Count: 11333

English Abstract

A method and apparatus is disclosed for advancing the sale of vending machine products. The invention enables selling products without revealing the identity of the product. By concealing the identity of the products from a consumer prior to receiving payment, the present invention promotes the automated sale of perishable, slow-selling and/or less profitable products, to increase the overall profitability of a vending machine. Various embodiments are disclosed, including: predetermined price embodiments in which a vending machine sells one or more mystery products for a predetermined price; consumer-specified price embodiments in which a consumer is allowed to specify a price for one or more mystery products; and upsell embodiments in which a vending machine offers one or more upsell mystery products in exchange for the amount of change owed to a consumer, or in exchange for an amount of change owed to a consumer plus an additional monetary value.

French Abstract

Cette invention se rapporte a un procede et a un appareil servant a favoriser la vente de produits par distributeur automatique. Cette invention permet de vendre des produits sans reveler l'identite du produit. En dissimulant l'identite des produits au consommateur avant de recevoir le paiement, cette invention promeut la vente automatisee de produits perissables, se vendant peu et/ou moins rentables, de facon a accroitre la rentabilite globale du distributeur automatique. Divers modes de realisation sont decrits, tels que: des modes de realisation bases sur un prix predetermine, dans lesquels le distributeur automatique vend un ou plusieurs produits mysterieux pour un prix predetermine; des modes de realisation bases sur un prix specifie par le consommateur, dans lesquels le consommateur est autorise a specifier un prix pour un ou plusieurs produits mysterieux; et des modes de realisation bases sur des

ventes supplementaires, dans lesquels le distributeur automatique offre un ou plusieurs produits mysterieux supplementaires en contrepartie du change du au consommateur, ou en contrepartie du change du au consommateur plus une valeur en argent supplementaire.

8/5/5 (Item 5 from file: 349) DIALOG(R) File 349: PCT FULLTEXT (c) 2003 WIPO/Univentio. All rts. reserv. 00519381 **Image available** SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRACKING AND ESTABLISHING A PROGRESSIVE DISCOUNT BASED UPON A CUSTOMER'S VISITS TO A RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT SYSTEME ET PROCEDE DE SUIVI ET D'ETABLISSEMENT D'UN RABAIS PROGRESSIF LIE AU NOMBRE DE VISITES FAITES PAR UN CLIENT A UN COMMERCE DE DETAIL Patent Applicant/Assignee: WALKER ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, Inventor(s): WALKER Jay S , VAN LUCHENE Andrew S, MIK Magdalena , CHUPREVICH John, ALDERUCCI Dean Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date): Patent: WO 9950733 A2 19991007 WO 99US6597 19990325 Application: (PCT/WO US9906597) Priority Application: US 9849297 19980327; US 98166267 19981005 Designated States: AE AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY CA CH CN CU CZ DE DK EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT UA UG UZ VN YU ZA ZW GH GM KE LS MW SD SL SZ UG ZW AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG Main International Patent Class: G06F Publication Language: English Fulltext Availability: Detailed Description Claims Fulltext Word Count: 26742

English Abstract

A system and method for rewarding a customer's loyalty to a retail establishment and encouraging regular customer visits by offering a progressive discount on their purchases includes a point of sale (POS) controller that determines a loyal customer's discount. The value of the discount is dependent upon the customer visiting the retail establishment on a regular basis. A customer's visits are tracked, and the customer is provided with a discount that is incremented by a pre-defined value if the customer visits at least once every pre-defined period. The discount may only be incremented once in every pre-defined time period and may be negated if the customer did not visit at all during the pre-defined time period. Coupons that are representative of the discount earned by the customer may also be offered. If the coupon is redeemed within the pre-defined time period, a new coupon is issued having a higher discount value of a pre-defined value. If the coupon is redeemed after the pre-defined time period has expired, the customer receives no discount on the current purchase and is issued a new coupon at a pre-defined minimum discount value. A further system and method are disclosed for determining and applying a discount to a customer's transaction. The discount is of a progressive nature, wherein the value of a customer's discount increases if the customer meets the conditions associated with the discount. The system rewards more frequent or profitable customers with benefits such as larger increases in the discount or higher maximum discount than those awarded to less frequent or profitable customers. The discount is decreased or eliminated if the customer fails to meet the conditions associated with the discount.

French Abstract

L'invention se rapporte a un systeme et a un procede visant a recompenser la fidelite d'un client a un commerce de detail et a encourager des visites regulieres des clients au moyen d'un rabais progressif sur leurs achats. Ledit systeme comporte a la base une unite de commande de point de vente (POS i (point of sale)) qui evalue le rabais a attribuer a un client fidele. La valeur du rabais depend de la regularite des visites du client au commerce de detail. Les visites d'un client sont enregistrees et le client se voit attribuer un rabais qui augmente d'une valeur predefinie s'il se presente au moins une fois par periode predefinie. Le rabais peut n'augmenter qu'une seule fois dans chaque periode predefinie et il peut etre diminue si le client ne s'est pas presente du tout pendant la periode predefinie. On peut offrir au client des bons de reduction representatifs du rabais qu'il a gagne. Si le coupon est echange au cours de la periode predefinie, on peut decerner au client un nouveau bon de reduction avec un rabais plus important de valeur predefinie. Si le bon de reduction est echange apres expiration de la periode de temps predefinie, le client ne recoit pas de rabais sur l'achat en cours et on lui attribue un nouveau bon de reduction a une valeur predefinie de rabais minimal. L'invention se rapporte egalement a un autre systeme et a un autre procede permettant de determiner et d'appliquer un rabais a une transaction de client. Le rabais est de nature progressive, et la valeur de rabais d'un client augmente si le client remplit les conditions associees au rabais. Le systeme recompense les clients les plus assidus ou les meilleurs clients par des avantages tels que des augmentations plus importantes du rabais ou un rabais maximal superieur que ceux accordes aux clients moins assidus ou a ceux qui sont de moins bons clients. Le rabais est reduit ou annule lorsque le client ne remplit pas les conditions associees au rabais.

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8/5/6
           (Item 6 from file: 349)
DIALOG(R) File 349: PCT FULLTEXT
(c) 2003 WIPO/Univentio. All rts. reserv.
00488457
            **Image available**
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING A VENDING MACHINE
PROCEDE ET APPAREIL DE COMMANDE D'UNE MACHINE DE VENTE
Patent Applicant/Assignee:
  WALKER ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP,
Inventor(s):
   WALKER Jay S ,
  TEDESCO Daniel E,
  JORASCH James A,
  LECH Robert R
Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):
                        WO 9919809 A2 19990422
  Patent:
  Application:
                        WO 98US21216 19981008
                                               (PCT/WO US9821216)
  Priority Application: US 97947798 19971009; US 9812163 19980122
Designated States: AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY CA CH CN CU CZ DE DK EE ES
  FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV
  MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT UA UG
  UZ VN YU ZW GH GM KE LS MW SD SZ UG ZW AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM AT BE
  CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN
  GW ML MR NE SN TD TG
Main International Patent Class: G06F-017/00
International Patent Class: G06F-007/00; G07F-007/00
Publication Language: English
Fulltext Availability:
  Detailed Description
  Claims
Fulltext Word Count: 16427
```

English Abstract

A method and apparatus for automatically managing a price of a product

in a vending machine (100). A method for implementing dynamic price adjustments at various times including after stocking, after a sale of a product and at periodic intervals. The method includes the steps of updating inventory data including a quantity of a product, accessing price management data associated with the product, and determining the price of the product. The determined price of the product is based on the price management data and the inventory data is stored in a memory (128) of the apparatus and displayed for customers. A method for receiving a package identifier (512), including the steps of identifying a set of products corresponding to the package identifier and determining a package price corresponding to the identified set of products, outputting a signal representing the package price and outputting a signal representing an instruction to dispense a unit of each identified product.

French Abstract

Cette invention concerne un procede et un appareil qui permettent de gerer automatiquement le prix d'un produit dans une machine de vente. Un premier procede et un premier appareil permettent d'ajuster les prix de maniere dynamique a des moments divers, c'est a dire apres le stockage, apres la vente d'un produit et a des intervalles periodiques. Ce premier procede consiste essentiellement a remettre a jour les donnees d'inventaire, a introduire une quantite d'un produit, a acceder aux donnees de gestion des prix qui sont associees a ce produit, et a determiner le prix du produit. Le prix du produit est ainsi determine en fonction des donnees de gestion des prix et des donnees d'inventaires, puis stocke dans une memoire de l'appareil et affiche a l'attention des clients. Cette invention concerne eqalement un second appareil et un second procede permettant a une machine de vente de fournir automatiquement une combinaison de produits a un prix de lot. Ce second procede consiste a recevoir un identificateur de lot, a identifier un ensemble de produits correspondant a cet identificateur de lot, et a determiner le prix du lot correspondant a l'ensemble de produits identifie. Ce second procede consiste en outre a emettre un signal representant le prix du lot, et a emettre un signal representant une instruction ordonnant la distribution d'une unite de chaque produit identifie.

- File 347:JAPIO Oct 1976-2002/Oct(Updated 030204)
 (c) 2003 JPO & JAPIO
 File 350.Derivert MDLY 1963 2003/ID IM (UD-200315
- File 350:Derwent WPIX 1963-2003/UD,UM &UP=200315 (c) 2003 Thomson Derwent
- Set Items Description
- S1 127563 BID? ? OR BIDD? OR OFFER? OR PROFFER? OR COUNTEROFFER?
- S2 2555641 MANY OR MULTIPL? OR MULTI OR SEVERAL OR NUMEROUS? OR PLURA-L? OR MYRIAD OR VARIOUS? OR VARIED OR DUAL? OR (MORE OR GREAT-ER) () THAN() (1 OR ONE)
- S3 4598277 CATEGORIES OR CLASSIFICATION? OR TAXONOM? OR SEGMENT? OR P-ARTS OR DIVISION? OR SECTION? OR INDEX? OR HIERARCH? OR SUBDI-VISION? OR SUBLIST? OR SPECIES OR GROUPING? OR NOMENCLATURE? -OR CLASS? ? OR KIND? ? OR TYPE? ?
- S4 2133050 COLLECTIV? OR HOLDINGS OR PORTFOLIO? OR BASKET? ? OR CUMULAT? OR ACCUMULATIV? OR TOTAL? OR OVERALL OR COMBINED OR JOINED OR AGGREGAT? OR CLUSTER? OR COMPIL? OR GROUP? OR CONSOLIDAT? OR COMBIN? OR AGGREGATE OR POOL? OR GROUP? ?
- S5 1582369 PRODUCT? ? OR MERCHANDI? OR COMMODIT? OR GOODS OR WARE OR WARES OR ITEM? ? OR ARTICLE?
- S6 3584 (BRAND OR COMPANY OR FIRM? ? OR ENTITY OR INSTITUTION? ? OR ORGANIZATION? OR ORGANISATION? OR PROVIDER? OR BUSINESS OR C-ORPORAT? OR TRADE) (2W) (NAME? OR IDENTITY OR MONIKER OR IDENTIFIER? ? OR MARK?? OR MARQUE?)
- S7 2625755 SUBCATEGOR? OR SUBDIVISION? OR SUBSET? OR SUBGROUP? OR S3(-2N)(PART? ? OR COMPONENT? OR PIECE? ? OR SEGMENT? OR FRACTION? OR ELEMENT? ? OR LAYER? OR TIER? OR INCREMENT? OR PORTION? OR DIVISION? OR OFFSHOOT? OR SECTION? ?)
- S8 0 S1 AND (S2(3N)S3) AND (S4(5N)S5) AND S6 AND S7
- S9 13 S1 AND (S2(3N)S3) AND (S4(5N)S5)
- S10 3125 SHOPPING()(BASKET? ? OR CART? ? OR KART? ? OR BAG? ? OR TR-OLLEY OR TROLLIES)
- S11 104 S1 AND (S2(5N)(S3 AND S7)) AND (S5 OR S6 OR S10) NOT S9
- S12 28 S1 AND (S2(5N)(S3 AND S7)) AND (S5 OR S6) AND (S4 OR S10) NOT S9
- S13 196 (S1(S)(((S2(5N)(S3 AND S7)) OR S4 OR S10 OR S6)(5N)S5)) NOT (S9 OR S12)
- S14 100 S13 AND (IC=G06F-017/60 OR MC= (T01-N01A2 OR T01-N01A OR T-01-J05A2B OR T01-J05A2A OR T01-J05A2 OR T01-J05A))
- S15 190 (S1(S)(((S2(5N)(S3 AND (S6 OR S7))) OR S4 OR S10)(5N)S5)) NOT (S9 OR S12)
- S16 107 (S1(10N)(((S2(5N)(S3 AND (S6 OR S7))) OR S4 OR S10)(5N)S5))
 NOT (S9 OR S12)
- S17 1 (S1(10N)((S2(5N)(S3 AND (S6 OR S7)))(5N)S5)) NOT (S9 OR S1-2)
- S18 1369 S1(3N)(PURCHAS? OR BUY??? OR BOUGHT OR SELL OR SOLD OR SALE OR SHOPP? OR ORDER?)
- S19 25 (S18(S)(((S2(5N)(S3 AND (S6 OR S7))) OR S4 OR S10)(5N)S5)) NOT (S9 OR S12 OR S17)
- S20 0 S18 AND (S2(3N)(S3 OR S7)) AND (S4(5N)S5) AND S6 NOT (S9 OR S12 OR S17 OR S19)
- S21 1 S18 AND (S4(3N)((S3 OR S7) AND S6)) NOT (S9 OR S12 OR S17 OR S19)
- S22 4 S18 AND (S4(3N)(S3 OR S7)) NOT (S9 OR S12 OR S17 OR S19 OR S21)
- S23 1 ((S5(3N)(S3 OR S6 OR S7))(5N)S4) AND S18 NOT (S9 OR S12 OR S17 OR S19 OR S21)